

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 106167

EXDIS - FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG FROM UNA

FOL RIYADH 0292 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO JIDDA DHAHRAN APR
25, 1978 REPEATED TO YOU QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L RIYADH 292

EXDIS

FOR SECRETARY AND H: ATWOOD FROM AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, PINR, SA, US, IS

SUBJECT: NELSON ROCKEFELLER'S MEETING WITH ISRAELI AMBASSADOR
DINITZ

1. AT LUNCHEON MEETING WHICH I HAD WITH FORMER VICE PRESIDENT
NELSON ROCKEFELLER IN NEW YORK ON APRIL 5, ROCKEFELLER STATED
THAT HE WOULD GO TO SEE ISRAELI AMBASSADOR DINITZ AND TELL HIM
THAT CONTINUED ISRAELI OPPOSITION TO F-15 SALE WOULD IN HIS
(ROCKEFELLER'S) OPINION BE DETRIMENTAL TO FUTURE LONG TERM U.S.-
ISRAEL RELATIONSHIP. HE STATED THAT HE WOULD ASK THE AMBASSADOR
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TO "CALL OFF THE DOGS." HE STATED THAT HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH
DINITZ WAS SUCH THAT HE FELT HE COULD TALK FRANKLY WITH HIM
AND PERHAPS HAVE SOME EFFECT.

2. AT RECEPTION-DINNER HELD FOR ROCKEFELLER ON APRIL 23 IN
RIYADH, HE REPORTED ON RESULTS OF THAT MEETING.

3. AMBASSADOR DINITZ WAS ABSOLUTELY UNBENDING IN VEHEMENTLY CRITICIZING THE F-15 SALE. HE SAID THE SAUDIS DIDN'T NEED THE PLANE AS THEIR DEFENSE REQUIREMENTS COULD BE MET WITH LESS SOPHISTICATED AIRCRAFT.

4. HE ALSO STATED THAT ISRAELI GOVERNMENT HAD "FIRM INTELLIGENCE" THAT SAUDIS WOULD TRANSFER PLANES TO CONFRONTATION STATES IN THE EVENT OF ANOTHER ARAB-ISRAELI CONFLICT.

5. ROCKEFELLER QUOTED DINITZ AS SAYING "WE'RE GOING TO LET THE SALE TO EGYPT GO THROUGH BUT NOT TO THE SAUDIS".

6. OUR FORMER VICE PRESIDENT THEN COMMENTED, "IT'S A SAD COMMENTARY WHEN A REPRESENTATIVE OF A FOREIGN GOVERNMENT CAN IN SUCH AN ARROGANT WAY TELL US WHAT WE ARE GOING TO DO IN OUR FOREIGN AFFAIRS." GNEHM UNQUOTE VANCE

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